

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
RAIL CORRIDOR
SAFETY COMMITTEE**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington St., Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789**

November 2006

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Rail Corridor Safety Committee

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November 1, 2006

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

INFORMATION REPORT

Rail Corridor Safety Committee

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

The Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation, P.L. 28-2000 (Extended by SEA 30-2005, expiration November 1, 2010) directing the Committee to do the following:

- (1) Study the safety of rail corridors, including corridors at overpasses, underpasses, and crossings.
- (2) Review railroad safety records.
- (3) Study methods of encouraging cooperation among the railroads, local government, state government, and federal government to enhance the safety of railroads.
- (4) Study other topics as assigned by the Legislative Council.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Committee met one time during the 2006 interim on September 27, 2006. The Committee heard testimony from Senator Jackman, the Chair, about the Shelbyville-to-Lawrenceburg rail line and its role in bringing the Honda automotive plant to Greensburg.

In addition, the Committee heard testimony from the Indiana Department of Transportation on the Rail Grade Crossing Improvement Fund, along with statistics on the number of public and private rail grade crossings and the number of accidents and fatalities at the crossings.

The Committee heard testimony from the Indiana Rail Transportation Group (IRTG). This group represents Class 1, 2, and 3 railroads. In addition, the IRTG provided the Committee with the funding needs of shortline railroads and with recommendations on how the legislature could help with the funding.

Mr. Tom Kinser of Indiana Operation Lifesaver provided the Committee with a brief overview of Indiana Operation Lifesaver and how long it has been in existence. In addition, Mr. Kinser told the Committee that a vehicle and train collide somewhere in the United States approximately every 115 minutes.

The Committee is not required to file a final report.

Meeting minutes for the Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.